

WADE HOUSE (Inn)
GREENBUSH, WISCONSIN

Shelbourn Co

H.A.B.S. No Wis/22

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▼ PHOTOGRAPHS ▼
WRITTEN, HISTORICAL & DESCRIPTIVE DATA
DISTRICT No 28
REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS

Historic American Building Survey
Alexander C. Guth ▼ District Officer
1249 North Franklin Place, Milwaukee, Wis.

THE WADE HOUSE (INN)
Greenbush, Sheboygan County, Wisconsin

Owner. William H. Wade.

Date of Erection. 1849

Architect. None

Builder. Sylvanus Wade

Present Condition. Well preserved.

Number of Stories. Three

Materials of Construction. Entire frame, oak timbers.
Wood siding, Brick Chimneys,
wood porch.

Other Existing Records. Original (?) Carpenter's bill,
preserved at Wade House.

Additional Data. (See following pages)

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THE WADE HOUSE.

The little village of yesterday, Greenbush, is located exactly midway between the cities of Sheboygan and Fond du Lac. To be exact, the distance from Greenbush to either one of these metropolitan cities is nineteen and one-half miles. The county is Sheboygan.

On the main highway as it meanders thru the village of Greenbush is located the Wade House. It is three stories high and easily the largest structure in that nearby countryside.

In 1844 Sylvanus Wade blazed a trail thru the trackless forests west of Sheboygan. With several teams, some head of cattle, many hens and a large family he finally arrived at what today is known as Greenbush. After erecting for his own use a modest log cabin he proceeded in this wilderness to erect the inn. A plank road had meanwhile been built from one of the above mentioned cities. The erection of the inn started in 1849. The story is told that many a weary traveller stopped here on his way to Wisconsin, ~~the latter~~ not realizing that he already was in that bountiful state.

Amongst the treasures at the old inn is one that purports to be a carpenter bill. The amount of the bill is \$300.00 and represents the amount of money paid out

for all carpenter work, millwork and hardware for the entire structure. The bill also itemizes the cost of hiring skilled labor by the day for the amount of 50¢/ And these mechanics must have earned their daily wage when one considers that the building in question is entirely framed of oak timbers, a difficult wood to work.

The old inn is a veritable heritage of the past. Like many other notable structures in Wisconsin, it just grew up. But its growing pains were worth while because we find today a structure which bears the closest study. It is good in mass and refined in detail. It is a refreshing piece of work throughout. It is very regular and formal in design, in fact both ends are identical. The front shows that same feeling for symmetry. The mouldings of the entire structure are hand-made and as free-flowing and graceful as can be found anywhere. The windows, ~~of which there are an endless number~~, are well proportioned and good in design.

The interior is more ordinary. It contains the usual myriad of rooms found in a building used for this purpose. ~~Bedrooms without number and nary a bath room or wash room.~~ The old tap room and blue parlor are still in evidence, as well as a rather over size dining room. The kitchen and scullery remain intact to

this day. The ball room on the upper floor is interesting for its size and general proportions. All in all the structure is a splendid example of a building of another day.

The original owner and builder of the Wade House was Sylvanus Wade. He in turn handed the property to his son, H. C. Wade. A son of the latter finally inherited the property and is the owner and occupant today. His name is William H. Wade and all ~~of~~ his children were born in the inn.

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Alfred W. Smith
District Officer.